TO THE HONORABLE SENATE

The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House Bill No. H. 278, entitled "An act relating to selection of the Adjutant and Inspector General"

respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the Senate propose to the House to amend the bill by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 2 V.S.A. § 12 is amended to read:

§ 12. LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS; UNIFORM BALLOTS

(a) Whenever there is a known contested election for Speaker of the House of Representatives, <u>or for</u> President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and in elections by the joint assembly of the <u>Legislature</u> <u>General Assembly</u>, the Secretary of State shall prepare a ballot for each office, listing the names of the known candidates for the office in the alphabetical order of their surnames and leaving thereon sufficient blank spaces to take care of any nominations from the floor.

(b) A candidate for office shall, not later than one week preceding the election, notify the Secretary of State in writing of his or her candidacy, naming the particular office. If he or she fails so to notify the Secretary of State, his or her name shall not be printed on the ballot. No ballot may be used other than the official ballot provided by the Secretary of State.

(c)(1) A candidate for Adjutant and Inspector General shall:

(A) be a resident of Vermont;

(B) have attained the rank of lieutenant colonel (O-5) or above;

(C) be a current member of the U.S. Army, the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Army Reserve, the U.S. Air Force Reserve, the Army National Guard, or the Air National Guard, or be eligible to return to active service in the Army National Guard or the Air National Guard; and

(D) be a graduate of a Senior Service College, currently be enrolled in a Senior Service College, or be eligible to be enrolled in a Senior Service College during the biennium in which the candidate would first be appointed.

(2) A candidate for Adjutant and Inspector General shall, at the time he or she notifies the Secretary of State of his or her candidacy pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, certify under oath to the Secretary that he or she meets the qualifications set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

(Committee vote: 5-0-0)

Senator (Je Binning Senator Benning

FOR THE COMMITTEE